SYNOPSIS ON

"THE STUDY OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL CONDITION OF FARMER'S SUICIDES AFFECTED FAMILIES IN MARATHWADA REGION."

SYNOPSIS SUBMITTED TO

Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded.

A SYNOPSIS FOR THE RESEARCH WORK TO BE PRESENTED FOR THE PHD DEGREE OF SOCIOLOGY UNDER THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES.

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Introduction:

Agriculture is the oldest form of occupation; it has a long history. Human beings have certain basic needs. We must have food, water, air, and shelter to survive. If any one of these basic needs is not met, then humans cannot survive. All great civilizations of the world flourished around the rivers e.g. Sumer, Assyria, Babylonian civilization had grown at historic region of West –Asia (Mesopotamia) within the Tigris-Euphrates river system, it also known as Mesopotamian civilization, Indus valley civilization on Sindhu river, The Huang HE (Yellow River) valley is the birthplace of Chinese civilization, Egyptian civilization developed along the Nile River etc.

Agriculture is the oldest and largest culture around the world. Indian culture imbedded with multiple symbols of agriculture. If we study Indian history in an in-depth manner, we come to know that all foreign invasions took place only due to the attraction of fertile soil and perennial rivers. Kings like Samrat Ashoka, Chatrapati shivaji maharaj ,chatrapati Shahu Mharaj had dug wells and built ponds and dams for the irrigation ,also made pro farmer policies for the welfare of farmers. When British came to India at that time India considered as "golden bird" in agriculture sector, all villages were independent but British ransacked India through its deceitful market practices by introducing their machine made production in Indian market, firstly they made farmers dependent on British goods and forced farmers to cultivate what needs as row material in England's factories. After Independence Indian agriculture have been kindled from the darkest shadow of British policies. India's first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru remarked that "Everything else can wait but not agriculture''.

Farmers are the backbone for every ideal age of history, without noticing their problems no country would achieve its desired destination. There are number of challenges ahead of India regarding agriculture e.g extreme food insecurity, low level of irrigation ,meagre spread of agricultural knowledge institutions, highly distressed farming community ,farmers suicide ,uncertainty of income ,insecurity lead to boom in migration towards urban areas, low productivity, growing salinity in soil makes soil dead, lack of financial support system, growing R-Zone on cultivable land ,over use of costly fertilizers makes farmers heavily indebted, low minimum support prize for crop, loot by merchants and middlemen , unavailability of laborers, reduction of land holding because of rising nuclear family and population growth.

Year	Percentage Share of GVA of Agriculture and Allied sector to Total Economy
2018-19	17.6
2019-20	18.4
2020-21	20.2

Source: National Statistical Office (NSO), M/o Statistics & PI.

In India Agriculture and its allied sectors share in economy have been rising instead of covid-19 Pandemic.

Although agriculture sector are growing still farmers facing distress. According to The National Crime Records Bureau of India reported that a total of 296,438 Indian farmers had committed suicide since 1995 to 2020. Out of these, 60,750 farmer suicides were in the state of Maharashtra since 1995 and the remaining in Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh, all states with loose financial and entry regulations.

During the budget session of Parliament in February 2021, the Narendra Modi government informed the House that 5,957 farmers committed suicide in India in 2019 as compared to 5,763 in 2018. Maharashtra contributed nearly 45 per cent of all farmer suicides, followed by Karnataka (22 per cent). This would mean about two deaths every three hours.

From January 2001 to July 2018, a total of 23,701 farmers from 18 districts of Vidarbha and Marathwada died by suicide. About 83.74% of the state's total farmer suicides were in the two regions of Vidarbha and Marathwada. The 33.87% of the state's drought-stricken population that lives in Vidarbha and Marathwada needs special attention. Price distortions in the last 20 years on account of high subsidies by the United States and low import tariffs in India and the failure of procurement mechanisms in Maharashtra have made the conditions of the farmers even more pitiable (Mishra 2014). Poor state agricultural extension services and the predominance of non-institutional credit mechanisms in rural financial markets are evident of state withdrawal from the rural and agricultural scenario. To add to this, 2004, 2010, 2013 and 2018 were rain-deficient years. This was followed by the cotton bollworm attack and fake Bt seeds in 2015 and the market glut of tur, soybeans and chana in 2016, which nosedived the prices. Besides this, the burden of obligatory social and family expenditure continues. This requires a multipronged strategy to address such a larger agrarian crisis.

Marathwada region:

There are **six** [Kokan, Nasik, Pune, Aurangabad, Amravati and Nagpur] administrative divisions in Maharashtra and has **36 districts and 355 talukas,** the geographical name of Aurangabad division is Marathwada, it is largest division it consists **8** districts and **76** talukas. It includes districts of Aurangabad, Jalna, Beed, Osmanabad, Nanded, Latur, Parbhani and Hingoli. Out of these eight districts, five are the worst affected, namely Beed, Jalna, Parbhani, Nanded and

Osmanabad. Marathwada region has a population of about 1.87 crore and geographical area of 64.5 thousand sq.km. Marathwada region has been reeling under drought condition since 2013. It is in a part of the scanty rainfall area of Central Maharashtra . The region had faced several droughts in the past. Droughts have occurred in the years 1899, 1918, 1972 and 2012 onwards. The 1972 drought is in the recent past; which people still remember (Srinagesh Mannekote Thippaiah at el, 2019). In 1972, food and fodder were the main concerns, but now drinking water is more important (Ade, 2019, Kudnar N.S. 2015).

It is multi-dimensional drought. Global climatic situation is also playing in the process, which was not so acute 50 years before. Marathwada is a region of the Indian state of Maharashtra. The word "Marathwada" has been used since the times of the Nizams. The region coincides with the Aurangabad Division of Maharashtra. It borders the states of Karnataka and Telangana, and it lies to the west of the Vidarbha and east of Khandesh regions of Maharashtra. The largest city of Marathwada is Aurangabad. Its people speak Marathi and Dakhini. Marathwada has total area of 64590 km2 and had a population of 18,731,872 at the 2011 census of India .
Despite various farmer welfare schemes, including a loan waiver in 2017, Maharashtra recorded 3,927 farmers' suicide in 2019 — the highest in the country, which registered a total of 10,281 suicides in the farm sector last year, according to data released by NCRB.

Statement of the problem:

"The Study of Socio-Economic and Educational Condition of Farmer's Suicides Affected Families in Marathwada Region".

This present study aims to analyze that how farmers facing worst condition on both side one is ideological and another is economic. Families of suicides affected farmer's almost lost the chances to mobilize upward, they have compelled to mobilize downward. As we have taken the topic to study farmer's suicides affected families, the reason behind that no study will complete without micro level inspection of topic. The institution of family is a basic unit in the society, to overcome social problems we need to study in-depth the structure of families of farmer's on multidimensional level so that we can solve the problems of farmer's suicides.

Concepts related to study:

Suicide: By The editors of Encyclopedia Britannica "the intentional killing of oneself "is called suicide .

Emile Durkheim's theory of suicide:

Emile Durkheim was a French sociologist. Durkheim used the theory of Anomie in his book on "suicide". Where he stated that 'suicide is a social fact', i.e.it take place due to external forces. Durkheim linked each of the types of suicide to the degree of integration into, or regulation by society (Thorlindsson and Bjarnason,1988). He outlined four types of suicide viz 1) Egoistic

suicide: when individual is isolated by his/her community (integration is low here) .2) Anomic suicide: due to economic instability and personal struggle (regulation is low here).3) Altruistic suicide: due to fanatical love for one's own community. (integration is high in this situation) 4) Fatalistic suicide: when an individual is so regulated by society that he feels oppressed).

After understanding the types of suicide given by Durkheim we come to know that the farmer's suicides exhibit the nature of egoistic suicide as their action of killing themselves is largely due to the response that they receive from society. Other three types also suites farmers suicide if we study the reasons behind the suicide thoroughly.

Imitation theory of Gabriel Tarde:

The theory of imitation argues that people commit suicide (and engage in wide range of other actions) because they are imitating the actions of others who have committed suicide. Score of farmers following this kind of method.

Thorsten Veblen's conspicuous consumption and leisure class theory:

Veblen coined the term leisure class. This concept refers to the ruling class, which displays its power through conspicuous consumption rather than through the ownership of means of production. Conspicuous Consumption refers to the public enjoyment or flaunting of wealth symbols in order to maintain and display one's affluence. Farmers have been locked in a vicious trap of false status or prestige, in order to fulfil that requirement of conspicuous consumption he would be locked in a debt trap by money launders and finally it result into suicide.

Reference group theory by Merton:

Merton suggest that individual compare themselves with reference groups of people who occupy the social role to which the individual aspires. Mainly here farmers take it this in a negative way and at the end it converts into suicide.

Pierre Bourdieu's theory of Cultural Capital:

Cultural capital refers to the informal social skills, habits, linguistic styles and taste that an individual demonstrates. Farmers lack all kind of above mentioned skills which comes under the cultural capital that's why they have forced to commit suicide.

Review of literature:

1. **Karthikeyan Mariappan and Deyi Zhou** :
   Article A Threat of Farmers' Suicide and the Opportunity in Organic Farming for Sustainable Agricultural Development in India by Karthikeyan Mariappan and Deyi Zhou College of Economics and Management, Huazhong Agricultural University, Wuhan 430070, China: In this article author points out that how organic farming can create a new opportunity to farmers who lost hopes in his occupation and compelled to commit suicide.

2 **Radhakrishnan Puthenveetil** :

"Farmers' Suicides Some Sociological Reflection" on research gate by Radhakrishnan Puthenveetil –Madras institute of development studies.dept.sociology and Anthropology,P hD: Author suggest solution to farmers distress and suicide .He points out the Vandana Shiva's ideas regarding indigenous seed saving ,multiculturals crop cultivation.

3 **Naik S .R** :
Pashchim Vidarbhatil Atmhatyagrasht Shetkaryanchya kautumbik samasya yek Samajshashtriy aadhyyan- Naik S .R (PhD thesis in sociology) under Sant Gadge Maharaj Amravati University,Amravati 2018 : Author suggest that how globalization and liberalization created changes and challenges in agriculture sector, she examine the causes of farmers suicide ,specially she mentioned the Dirty politics of Gram panchayat level which hinder the development at village level, problem of private loan, incapability of Krushi Utpann Bajar Samitis,farmers dependence on multinational companies which owns means of production of seeds and fertilizers, she mentioned that there is no unique National Policy regarding farming ,she studied that people looks in a bad intention to wife of dead farmer, she points out that there is no good facility for education to farmers suicide affected families in western vidharbha.local level quarrels between people at rural area hinder the progress in western vidharbha.

4 **Dr. G. L. Parvathamma** :

Farmers Suicide and Response of the Government in India -An Analysis Dr. G. L. Parvathamma Associate professor&co-ordinator, Department of Economics, Bangalore University, P.G.Centre, Kolar in IOSR Journal of Economics and Finance (IOSR-JEF): He points out that Indian Farmers are Committing Suicide because of Monsanto's costly

GMO Crops.he also analyse the relief pacage announced by Maharashtra Government and Central Government.

5 **Shinde Vinayak Bajirav** :

"Marathwadyatil shetkaryanchya Aatmhatya Karanmimansa v Upay Yojna yek Samajshashtriy Adhyayan"(PhD thesis in sociology) of Swami Ramananda Teerth Marathwada University,Nanded by Shinde Vinayak Bajirav : In this phd thesis he notified that status also be a reason behind farmer's suicides in Marathwada region.

Objectives of the study:

1. To investigate the causes of farmer's suicide in Marathwada region.
2. To examine socio-economic and educational condition of farmer's suicides affected families.
3. To examine cultural-religious causes of suicide such as dowry practice, superstition on family.
4. To understand the role of climate change and farmer's suicides.
5. To scrutinise the government's role to uplift suicides affected families.
6. To advise suggestions to government for policy implementation.

Hypothesis to be tested:

1. There are multidimensional causes of farmers suicides in Marathwada region.
2. The socio-economic and education condition of farmers suicides affected families are worst.
3. Dowry is one of the main social evil which force farmers to commit suicide.
4. Climate change is a major factor which lead to farmer's suicides.
5. There is Lack of political will to change the scenario of farmer's suicides.
6. There must be farmer centric policies which can built robust agriculture sector.

Research methodology:

The present study is an analytical in nature so the main source of data for this study is the primary and secondary data. The primary data will be collected through interview, questionnaires, schedule ,observation, the other source of secondary data will also be used in this study like Books, Magazines, Census, Journals, Government reports, Economic survey, Research papers, M.Phil.

And Ph.D. theses of earlier studies. The study of farmers suicides affected families based on sample size, one most farmers suicide affected village of every district of Marathwada would be taken as sample for study.

Importance of study:

According to former Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi "if farmers become weak the country loses self-reliance, but if they are strong, freedom of the nation also becomes strong". We have strong history of agriculture, but due to various reason farming becoming bane. No educated person wants to work in agriculture, Farmers have been committing suicides. It's the need of the hour to solve this major problems of farmers suicides because 166 million (56%) workers have been engaged in Agriculture and allied activities in our country.

Chapter scheme:

The research studies divided into six chapters are as follows:

1. Introduction.
2. Review of literature and Research methodology.
3. Farmer's suicides: origin, causes, consequences.
4. Socio-Economic Condition of Farmer's Suicides Affected Families.
5. Cultural and Educational condition of farmer's suicide affected families.
6. Measures, suggestion, conclusion.

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5. The Indian Express newspaper.
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